Vedic Astrology - How to Predict the Outcome of a Dasha

The beauty of prediction in Vedic astrology is the combination of both the dashas triggered by or with transits. The dasha system used most commonly is called the Vimshottari Daha System. The dashas are the planetary cycles of a life based on the placement of the Moon at birth. There are 9 cycles which include the 7 planets, plus the north and south nodes (Rahu, Ketu). The outer planets are not used. Each cycle has a designated allotment of years all combined equal 120 years. The ruler of the ruling planet of each dasha is determined by the 27 constellations called the Nakshatras. Each Nakshatra starting from 0 degrees Aries are 13 degrees 20 minutes. These 27 segments of the constellations take in the meanings of the fixed stars and constellations. They are called Lunar Constellations because the Moon resides in one each day. The daily movement of the Moon is approximately 13 degrees and 20 minutes. Each Nakshatra is ruled by one of the 9 planets. They follow in the same sequential order. So where the natal Moon is placed this Nakshatra, and the ruling planet of that Nakshatra initiates the beginning of the order of the cycles of the life. The planet that rules the cycle of the Dasha is called the Maha Dasha (Major Dasha). Within this cycle there are sub cycles called the Bhukti. The Maha Dasha and the Bhukti ruling planets are then further referred to in the chart by the house rulership, dispositors, and the houses they are in. The Transits used together with current Dashas will prove their predictive value.

Here are the 27 Nakshatras and the plantet that rules each Nakshatra. The first Nakshatra is ruled by Ketu, followed by Venus, Sun, Moon,

Mars, Rahu, Jupiter, Saturn, and Mercury. Then this same sequential order is repeated 2 more times completing all 27 Nakshatras. Each planetary cycle has a different length of years. Ketu is 7 years, Venus 20 years, Sun 6 years, Moon 10 years, Mars 7 years, Rahu 18 yrs, Jupiter 16yrs, Saturn 19yrs, Mercury 17 yrs

Factors Activated During Planet's Dashas

The natural quality of the planet that rules the Maha Dasha (main cycle) is considered. Is the planet generally malefic or benefic? This means its natural qualities aside from what houses the planet may rule in a particular chart. The maha dasha of Jupiter, Venus, Mercury, and the Moon will be easier than the maha dasha of malefic planets Saturn, Mars, Rahu, Ketu, and the Sun. Jupiter will give some benefit because of its expansive nature, and Saturn will cause delays and setbacks because of its restrictive qualities. Each planet is the indicator (karaka) for certain things in life generally. This called stirra karakas (fixed) meaning they represent the same things for everyone. The planetary karakas are: Sun- Father, Moon- Mother, Mercury-aunts/uncles Mars-brothers, Venus- relationships, fixed assets Jupiter-children, wealth Saturn- death, old age. But that is only part of the situation. There are specific qualities that each planet will take on depending on each individual chart. The planetary ruler's house placement will be the predominant area of life that will be the focus for that entire period of time. If you are in Jupiter's maha dasha and Jupiter is in the 7th house during the next 16 years marriage and its issues will be the main focus during this period. The houses the maha dasha ruler rules will play into this cycle and how the issues of marriage transpire. If Jupiter in the 7th rules the 12th and the 3rd houses as in Capricorn ascendants the relationship will go through some difficulties for Jupiter rules the 12th

house of losses. Both houses Jupiter rules are somewhat problematic. Jupiter is not a good planet for Capricorn ascendant. Check if the planet is in a friend or enemies sign placement, or if it is exalted or debilitated, this will strengthen the effects for good or bad. Jupiter will be in Cancer, this is a friendly sign for Jupiter, for it is exalted and intensifies it tremendously. Is the planet involved in any yogas. The yoga will come to maturation during this planetary period, meaning its effects come into play at this time in life. Jupiter here is Humsa yoga (Jupiter in an angle exalted). This can produce an overbearing partner, causing problems. If the maha dasha ruler is conjunct or aspected by other planets this will alter its effect tremendously. If the Sun was conjunct this Jupiter in the 7th house it would bring 8th house qualities (Sun rules the 8th) to the spouse maybe indicating early death for the spouse, and if the Sun is within a 7 degree orb of the Sun, Jupiter would be considered combust the Sun. This would therefore weaken Jupiter and the houses that it rules. The houses the maha dasha ruler aspects will also become activated in this dasha period. Finally check out where the planet goes in the main divisional charts, is its sign placement strong? Mostly focus on the navamsha chart for sign placement. If it is in the same sign as the natal chart (Rashi) it has more strength, it is vargottama. To look for deeper meaning and for more reasons why the dasha is producing what effects always look to the dispositor of the planetary ruler. In this last example The Moon would be the dipositor of Jupiter in Cancer (Moon rules Cancer) and the placement of the Moon (sign, house, house rulers) will give a deeper understanding of why an how this maha dasha is experienced. A dasha ruler that is between 2 malefic planets (papa kartari) either in the same house or flaked by the preceding and proceeding houses will be harmed and cannot operate to its fullest capacity. Like wise if a

dasha ruler is sandwiched in between 2 benefic planets (shubha kartari) it will be given great opportunity and support to produce its most beneficial results.

Moon Chart

For further verification the Moon's chart must be assessed. The Moon chart will give the perspective from the mind of the individual, what are they feeling during this period. After the dasha ruler has been analysed completely following all these steps then these steps must be repeated using the Moon's chart. This means take the same chart and make the Moon the ascendant (Lagna). If the dasha ruler is good from the Moon chart and the rashi chart, you will be assured a positive dasha cycle. If it is good from the rashi chart but the Moon chart is difficult, you will have a mixed (some good and bad) result in the dasha period. If it looks difficult from both the rashi and the Moon chart you can bet it will be a negative time period.

Divisional Charts in Prediction

The dasha rulers (maha dasha or bhuktis) must be assessed in the divisional charts to really fine tune a prediction. They will reveal specific information for a specific area of life. If the dasha ruler is angular in one of these charts especially the 1st house it will bring out events pertaining to this chart. If it is in the 8th house there will definitely be change. The rulers of the houses of these charts are very important. For example, If Venus rules the 7th house and is in Virgo (debilitated) in the 8th house in the navamsha chart, then the Venus dasha or bhukti will bring on difficulties with relationships during its cycle. When working with these charts whatever house the divisional chart is in specific reference to, the planet ruling this house in the rashi

chart must be focused on in the divisional chart of interest. For example, if you are interested in the specifically focusing on career issues you would find the planet ruling the 10th house then find its placement in the dashamsha chart (career chart) to see details if the career. If it happens to be one of the dasha rulers, you can count on happenings in relation to the career. As to the result the placement of the planet in the usual pattern of assessing a planet will reveal the outcome.

Outline

1. General-the natural qualities of the planets

- The matters signified by the dasha ruler itself as a planet karaka, or house karaka

2. Specific- caused by the position of the planet in the individual chart.

- House position
- House ruler
- Friend or enemies sign
- Exaltation or debility
- Combust
- Aspect by, or conjoined with other planets
- Houses aspected by dasha ruler
- Vargottama
- Houses influenced by the dispositor of the dasha ruler
- Paapa kartari (hemmed in by malefics)
- Shubha kartari (hemmed in by benefics)

3. Moon chart

- If the planet ruling a dasha is good in the Rashi and the Moon chart – it will be a good dasha
- If it is good from the moon chart but not the Rashi it will give mixed

results
- If it is not well placed from both –it will give negative results
- Divisional charts

How to Know if a Dasha will be Favorable

There are many specific placements for planets that must be understood to be able to predict precisely the outcome.

Kendras the Angles

Any planet is more powerful in an angle, so benefics in angles will generally produce desirable effects during that period. A benefic in a triconal house is doubly good for there are two good influences involved with the dasha ruler. The dasha effects of a planet in an angle will be more prominent. The angles are the places of power and action. When in a dasha of a planet in an angle you can expect a period of big changes and major events. The 10th house is the strongest of the kendras, both the 7th and 10th houses will pertain to business affairs. Benefics in the 7th house can cause problems in marriage for it does attract many admirers, sometimes ruining stability in marriage. Malefics in the angles makes these planets and their meanings prominent producing a harsh, severe, and difficult to deal with person. The Dashas of these planets will intensify the effects of these planets and can cause accidents and health problems.

Triconals

This is a very fortunate period in life. Benefics in the 9th will bring luck, spiritual values, and fortune. The fifth house brings good karma, and prosperity, and the 1st house magnifies issues with the self. A benefic here will bring good to the individual. Generally the dasha of a

malefic planet can be stressful however malefic planets in triconal houses seems to spoil the good of the triconal house.

Upachayas

The upachaya houses are the houses of improvement, (3, 6, 10, 11) they give the desire to constantly improve and better life. They give the quest to overcome difficulty. Striving to improve one self gives the strength to overcome obstacles, and the latter life is much better because of it. When malefic planets are in the upachaya houses the drive to overcome the obstacles is stronger, there is more of a competitive edge. The best placements for the malefic planets are in the upachaya houses. The dasha of a malefic planet in an upachaya house will produce the good effects of overcoming obstacles and improving life's situation by a determination and competitive nature. Benefics in these houses do not give a driving force. The individual can become complacent and weak, or too nice and the opponent will overrule the native.

Dusthanas

A benefic planet in a dusthana house (6, 8, 12) will weaken the good effects of this planet. They can cause problems associated with the areas these houses are indications for. Disease, enemies and legal problems can surface in the sixth, obstacles with finances, chronic health problems leading to surgery for the eighth house, and hospitalization, retirement or imprisonment for the twelfth house. These all become relative during the dasha of a benefic planet placed in a dushana house. A benefic planet in these houses with a malefic planet aspecting it further produces these ill effects all the more. Since

the 8th and 12th houses are moksha houses from the difficulty arises spiritual realizations, leading to spiritual liberation, the purpose of life.

Malefics in dushana houses are the most problematic of all. They will cause some suffering and ill health. The 6th house will give the motivation to overcome things because it is a upachaya, but the 8th and 12th will cause great difficulties involving losses and possible deaths.

The House the Dasha Ruler owns

By far the most important factor in determining what effects a dasha will have will depend on the house or houses it rules. The period will produce the characteristics of both houses giving a mixed result. If it rules a triconal house it will bring the blessings and good luck of this house, but if it rules a dusthana house as well it will have the experience of both. Saturn for Gemini ascendants owns the 9th house (triconal) and the 8th house (dushtana). There will experiences of both houses good and bad. Some say the result will be more of the house that is ruled by the moolatriconal sign. I find it is a little of both. As for Taurus ascendants Saturn rules the 9th (triconal) and the 10th (kendra), the results will be very empowering for luck and career, but since it is still Saturn it will not be completely joyous. Basically the planetary dashas will carry with them the meanings of the houses and affairs they rule. There is no escaping this fact, but as to when the uplifting fortunous time of the triconal house occurs and the difficult time of the dushtana occurs depends on the sub cycles.

Sub Cycles

Bhuktis and Antara Dashas

Within a maha dasha there are sub cycles called the bhuktis or antara dashas. Each maha dasha is divided into 9 sub cycles that are ruled by planets as well. Again these bhuktis have sub divisions within them called antara dashas. There are divisions that go down to at lest 7 levels. I use only the 1st 3 levels. They seem to get more and more subtle (and too complicated) beyond 3 levels for me. The maha dasha will always be the overall emphasis, the bhukti will be more immediate and the antra dasha will be more personal. An analogy would be that the maha dasha is the country you live in, the state is the bhukti, and the city you reside in is the antara dasha. The time determined for a bhukti depends on the length of time allotted to the planets ruling these periods. The calculation is simple; mutiply the number of years aloted to the planet of the maha dasha ruler to the nuber of years allotted to the planet ruling the bhukti and divide the result by 10, the remainder is multiplied by 3. The 2 main periods result will be the number of months allotted to the sub cycle, and the remainder will be the number of days added to the number of months to give the length of the sub cycle. For example, if the maha dasha is Saturn and the bhukti is Mars, Saturn's length is 19 years and Mars is 7. Multiply 19 by 7=133, then divide by 10 =13.3, take the remainder 3 and multiply by 3= 9. The bhukti of Mars in Saturn's cycle is 13 months and 9 days or 1 year, 1 month, and 9 days long. When a maha dasha begins the bhukti will always start out the same as the maha dasha ruler. The sub, sub cycles are further divided down in the same exact manner, to find the smaller, shorter cycles within cycles. The bhukti and antara dashas will start out with the same planet ruler as the maha dasha ruler, and continue down in the same order or pattern as the maha dasha changing quicker.

Outline

1. Benefics-the planet ruling a dasha is well placed if it is in an Angle (Kendra) or Trinal house

2. Malifics do not do well in Trinal houses, Malifics do well in Upachaya houses (3, 6, 10, 11).

3. Problem Planets:

- Benefics not well supported (aspected by malifics), in dustana houses (3, 6, 8, 12)
- Malefics in kendras can magnify their intensity
- Malifics in houses 8 or 12 gives great difficulty

Bhukti Results

The planet ruling the bhukti is assessed the same way as the maha dasha ruler. The first three most important rules are: 1) The houses the ruler rules 2) the house the ruler is in 3) The general nature of the planet, benefic or malefic. Then all the other details must be analyzed as discussed before. The next step is to compare the maha dasha ruler to the bhukti ruler, count the number of houses each ruler is from one another. Start by counting the house the maha dasha is in as one, count to the house containing the bhukti ruler. Then start with the bhukti ruler and count back around (always in forward direction) to the maha dash ruler. This will give you the spacial relationship. For example, if the maha dasha is Jupiter in the 5th house and the bhukti ruler is the Moon in the 3rd house, count from Jupiter in the 5th to the Moon in the 3rd. The Moon is 11 houses from Jupiter, and Jupiter is 3 houses back to the Moon. Your knowledge of what the houses mean are applied here, and the meanings of houses 3 and 11 are applied to the Jupiter maha dasha with the Moon bhukti. The Jupiter/Moon period

will be a time of happiness with friends, groups (11th), possibly with the arts or competive sporting events (3rd).

The Bhukti's Ruler's placement and relationship to the Dasha ruler tells what the experience will be.

The spatial relationships are referred to also:

1\7: about relationships\connection with other people

2\12: gains\losses

3\11: friendly, competitive, works well

4\10: action, power, purpose, home verses career

5\9: benefic, auspicious, works well together,

6\8: difficult, losses, enemies

Maha Dasha as the Lagna

Actually you can look at the chart as a whole from the Maha dasha ruler as the Ascendant (Lagna), the bhukti and antara dasha rulers are said to activate the house positions in which they fall as counted from the Maha dasha ruler.Secondly if there is a particular area of interest, the technique of the derived houses can come into play here. For example, if you want to know what the financial situation is for a maha dasha period look to the 2nd house of the rashi chart and count how many houses the maha dasha ruler is from the 2nd house. If the maha dasha ruler is in the 1st house, it is 12th from the maha dasha ruler and will indicate losses financially for that cycle. The bhukti ruler is assessed the same way. Each house can be taken into account from

here. From the same example if the dasha ruler is in the 3rd house it will be 9th from the 7th giving rise and fortune for the marriage partner at this time.

Maha Dasha as Ruling Two Houses

When the maha dasha ruler rules two houses it can have the influence of both houses, but generally one house at a time. It has been said that the first half of a dasha takes on the quality of the house ruled by the planet that comes first in the natural zodiac (Aries through Pisces). This would not apply to dashas for the Sun, Moon, Rahu or Ketu. For example for Jupiter's maha dasha the first 8 years (1st half of 16 year cycle) will have the qualities of the house ruled by Sagittarius and the 2nd half, last 8 years will have the effects of the house ruled by Pisces. If the ascendant is Taurus then the first 8 years will have the qualities of the 8th house (Sagittarius) and the second 8 years will have the effects of the 11th house (Pisces).

Transits (Gochara)

1. A planets influence during it's transit is not limited to the house it transits, but includes the houses it aspects.
2. The most important transiting planet will be the transit of the planet ruling the current maha dasha.
3. When the transiting planet of the dasha ruler passes over, or aspects it's own position it is likely to activate it's promised effects.
4. The transiting planets will carry the effects of its natal placement in a chart, the house it rules and resides in.
5. The planet ruling the dasha is the most important point triggered by the transiting planets.

6. The transiting planets must be looked at from the Moon's chart. I find these transits can be more revealing. In India the transits from the Moon are relied on more. Some say the transits from the rashi are in effect more from ages 0-30, and the transits from the Moon are more relative from ages 30-60, and the transits from the Sun are more operative from age 60 on.

*At the initial start of a maha dasha the planet ruling that dasha should be noted as to its transiting placement. This house and position will influence the entire maha dasha.

Sadi Sati

The transit of Saturn over the natal Moon is the Sadi Sati. It is of a 7 ½ year duration. It comes into effect as Saturn enters the sign\house before the natal Moon, (2 ½ years) and while in the same sign\house of the Moon, (2 ½ years) and in the sign\house after the Moon (2 ½ years).=7 ½ years.

It is a time of loss of protection, depression, delays, and difficulty. It is considered one of the most difficult times in a life. This depends entirely on the houses involved and how the Moon and Saturn is placed in the chart. It recurs after a cycle of 30 years. A maximum of 3 cycles may occur for a person.

Divisional Charts, the Vargas

Vargas are the divisions of the 30 degree segments of a sign. Each varga or divisional chart gives a more detailed look, magnifying specific areas in a person's life. They are used to view only one aspect of life. They are very sensitive to time, if the birth time is incorrect by minutes it can give the wrong chart. I am leery to use them unless I

know the birth time is correct. Of course some astrologers use them to rectify a birth time. There are 16 divisional charts. Most astrologers use only certain ones. They can fine-tune your analysis. If you what more specific information about your career you would use the career chart, (dashamsha chart) but you must not read any other issue other than career into it. The divisional chart that is by far the most important is the navamsha chart. It will reveal the deeper truth of an individual. It is the spiritual essence of a person. The real clues as to the outcome of a person's life, is in the navamsha. The maha dasha ruler and bhukti ruler must always be reviewed in the navamsha for it will reveal more information to the outcome and indicates the inner quality of their cycles. The houses they tenet will tell the areas of life that will be the driving inner force of that period. Transits are not applicable to the divisional charts because they must be converted to their divisions before they can be made reference to. Generally they are not used in this way.

Rashi

The Rashi chart (D-1) is the 30 degrees of a sign divided by one. This is the whole person and contains within it everything past, present and future. The divisional charts are all derived from this one chart. For the most part the strength of the planets can be analyzed by the signs they go to in the divisional charts. Usually there will be a planet that consistently goes to strong placements in the majority of the vargas. This will indicate this planet gives good results. The vargas must always be used in relationship to the rashi, for they are derived from the rashi.

Hora Chart

The Hora chart (D-2) divides the 30 degrees by 15, two divisions each. This division divides the chart into Male (Sun) and Female (Moon) energies.

This chart is to assess the wealth of the individual. It is a closer look at the 2nd house. If most of the planets are in the Sun's hora (Leo) they have to work a harder for wealth. More planets in the Moon's hora (Cancer) will not have to strive so hard for wealth.

Drekkana Chart

The drekkana chart (D-3) divides the 30 degree sign into 3 parts each 10 degrees. The signs remain in the same element. The first 10 degrees will be the sign ruled by the planet, the second 10 degrees will be in the sign of the same element that follows next in the zodiac or 5 signs away, the last 10 degrees will be in the last sign of the same element, or 9 signs away. For example, if Venus is 11 degrees of Scorpio in the rashi, the 1st 10 degrees will be Scorpio (water), the 2nd 10 degrees will be Pisces (water), and the last 10 degrees will be Cancer (water). Venus is in Pisces in the drekkana chart.

The drekkana chart is used to fine tune issues of the 3rd house. This chart will take a closer look at siblings, courage, energy and life force. Mars is the most important planet in this chart.

Charturtamsha Chart

The charturtamsha chart (D-4) divides the 30 degree sign into 4 parts each 7.30 degrees. These 4 divisions are all in the same qualities (cardinal, fixed, mutable) starting with the sign the planet is in for the 1st 7.30 degrees. A planet in Cancer in the rashi divides the 1st 7.30 degrees will be in Cancer, the 2nd 7.30 degrees will be in Libra, the

3rd 7.30 degrees is in Capricorn, and the last 7.30 degrees of this sign is Aries. For example, if Mars is 12 degrees of Cancer it will be in Libra.

The charturtamsha is used to fine tune issues of the 4th house. This chart reveals happiness, real estate, home, mother, and any fixed assets.

Trimshamsha Chart

The trimshamsha chart (D-6) divides the 30 degree sign into 5 parts each 6 degrees. The planets are calculated by the odd numbered signs the first 5 degrees are ruled by Mars (Aries), the next by Saturn (Aquarius) 8 degrees by Jupiter (Sagittarius), the next 7 degrees by Mercury (Virgo), and the last 5 degrees are ruled by Venus (Taurus). In even signs this reversed starting with Venus the 1st 5degrees.

The trimshamamsha chart is used to fine tune the 6th house. It indicates accidents, health, obstacles and enemies. The Sun, Moon, Rahu and Ketu are not taken into account here. Saturn will indicate the biggest challenges.

Saptamsha Chart

The saptamsha chart (D-7) divides the 30 degree sign into 7 parts each 4.17 degrees. The divisions are divided up by if the sign is odd numbered then rulership starts with that sign. If the sign starts with an even numbered sign the rulership starts with the riling planet of the opposite sign.

The saptamsha chart pin points issues with children, creativity, and intelligence. Jupiter is the planet to note in this chart.

Navamsha Chart

The navamsha chart (D-9) divides the 30 degree sign into 9 parts each 3.20 degrees. This is the most important divisional chart of all. Vedic astrologers automatically compare this chart to the rashi to determine the results of a person's life. To calculate the navamsha of a planet the 1st 3.20 of a sign starts with the quality (cardinal, fixed, mutable) of the element the planet is in, then the following divisions countinue to the following signs in the zodiac regardless of quality or element. For example, if Venus is 10 degrees of Scorpio in the rashi, the first navamsha is Cancer, the 2nd navamsha is Leo, the 3rd navamsha is Virgo, the 4th navamsha is Libra, the 5th navamsha is Scorpio, the 6th navamsha is Sagittarius, the 7th navamsha is Capricorn, the 8th navamsha is Aquarius, and the 9th navamsha is Pisces. Venus falls in the 4th navamsha of Libra here.

The navamsha chart is called the fruit of the tree. This means it reveals the outcome of a person's life. If they will manifest the potential promised in the rashi chart. This is the issues of the ninth house, the house of luck, fortune and spiritual pursuits. It will reveal your future life. We seem to become our navamsha chart as we grow older. Some refer it to the spouse who is the mirror of yourself. If a planet is in the same sign in both the rashi and the navansha it is vargottoma. This means it gains strength and is a more powerful planet in the rashi.

Dashamsha Chart

The dashamsha chart (D-10) divides the 30 degree sign into 10 divisions each 3 degrees. The odd number signs begin with the sign being divided the signs following are in their natural order. The even

numbered signs begin with that the ruler of the sign then for each next division skip 9 signs further around the zodiac.

The dashamsha chart is referred to as the career chart for it focuses on the 10th house. It can reveal what type of career should be aspired to and what the social standing, status and ambitions are. It can indicate fame in this area as well. The planet that rules the 10th house in the rashi chart will be the most important planet to be analyzed in the dashamsha chart. This will give important clues as to what career an individual should pursue. The Sun in this chart is an important consideration, as well as the ruler of the ascendant of the rashi chart further noted in the dashamsha chart will give the indications for the career the individual is destined for and their successes within the career.

Dwadashamsha Chart

The dwadashamsha chart (D-12) divides the 30 degree sign into 12 parts each 2.30 degrees. It starts with the ruling sign and continues through the 12 signs of the zodiac, in their natural order. This chart gives the deeper essence of the 12th house. From this chart the details of the past incarnation can be assessed, and what karmas are to be worked on in this lifetime. This is the chart for the parents for we choose them to experience certain karmas before this incarnation. We never escape the imprint of our parents or early conditioning, for this develops coping and learning skills for our future. It can reveal talents or gifts brought from past lives, as well as fears or difficulties. The most important planet to be assessed here is the Sun because the Sun is our soul essence, spirit and the ego, which must be overcome.

*The next divisions are less frequently used for their division are very small and accuracy is questionable and they have more to do with areas not as concrete or easily understood.

Shodhashamsha Chart

The shodhashamsha chart (D-16) divides the 30 degree sign into 16 parts each 1.52’30". This chart focuses on 4th house matters especially the means of transport. I use this chart to determine when someone will buy a car. It can be used to assess any fixed assest.

Vimshamsha Chart

The vimshamsha chart (D-20) divides the 30 degree sign into 20 parts each 1.30. This chart reveals the spirituality and progress possible in this lifetime.

Charturvimshamsha or Siddhamsha Chart

The Charturvimshamsha chart (D-24) is the 24th division of the sign each 1.15 parts. It is a deeper look at the dwadashamsha chart revealing a much closer look at spiritual capabilities in this lifetime and ability to overcome the karmas of the previous lives.

Saptvimshamsha Chart

The Saptvimshamsha chart (D-27) is the 27th division of the sign 1.6 each. In the same way the 27 nakshatras divide the zodiac this calculation divides a sign the same way. Like the nakshatras it emphasizes the personality and the strengths and weaknesses of character.

Khavedamsha Chart

The Khavedamsha chart (D-40) is the 40th division of a sign 0.45 each. It reveals the overall quality of life.

Akshavedamsha Chart

The Akshavedamsha chart (D-45) is the 45th division of a sign 0.40 each. It is like the rashi chart exacting the degrees of the planetary placements.

Shastiamsha Chart

The shastiamsha chart (D-60) is the 60th division of a sign 0.30 each. This chart is used to differentiate between twins. It is also used in electional (muhurta) astrology in India.

The Moon in the Dasa Scheme.

The start of the first planetary dasa cycle is reckoned from placement of the Moon at birth. The Lord of the Nakshatra (corresponding star in the Moon sign) will determine the 1st dasa period. The percentage of the amount of distance traversed by the Moon through that Nakshatra is deducted from the balance of the mean dasa length to determine the first dasa length. Example - if the Moon had traveled ¼ through the Nakshatra of Bharani, ruled by Venus, then ¼ of the length of Venus dasa would be deducted from it's mean length of 20 years. Thus the first dasa would be Venus for 16 years.

The Vimshottari dasa is shown from the Moon because it is from the Moon that everything grows, first in our consciousness then later in the world. The Moon is the consciousness; it is the mind that has been with us for time immemorial. It is where our deep mental impressions

(called samsaras) reside. When a planetary dasa runs, first we get the samsaras from that planet, based on our past karma with it, and then we act upon those samsaras, creating new karma. If we have misused that planet's energy in past lives or this one, we get those difficult samsaras when the dasa runs, thus attracting the experiences we must in order to experience our mistakes and learn from them. If we have used that planet well, we get those samsaras also.
It is important to note that assessing dasa periods in a general way can be dicey. There are as many possibilities with dasas as there are charts. Venus for instance is a first rate benefic, yet as a dusthana lord or debilitated, her periods can seem like hell. This is because of what is mentioned above. A debilitated planet will show the difficult karma associated with it. In that case the themes stated below will be the areas of loss and suffering experienced. As an example if Venus is harmed we will especially feel pain in relationships, wealth, happiness, etc, when her dasa runs, because those are the things she rules. The planets have an innate quality and energy and when their period runs we will feel that energy for good or ill. When referring to these dasa periods we are also referring to their sub periods

Ketu - 7 years. First and foremost the Ketu's job is help us complete the karmas we are finishing in this life. His job is to give us only what we need and take everything we do not need in order for our soul to develop. Worldly success is just as possible in Ketu dasa as any other, but much of the time they are things that only last through his dasa and no further. Again, this is because he gives it so we can finish with it, then he takes it when his dasa is finished. Of course losing things in life usually does not feel very good, so many times on either end of Ketu dasa, people are suffering, as something is about to end. But

Ketu only hurts us if we are too attached to things that are unnecessary. Ketu supports esoteric and healing careers like Astrology, Yoga or other sacred healing practices. Mostly though, his dasa is hot and fast and can make life seem out of control. People should always avoid making long-term commitments at the end of Ketu dasa, as life is about to change drastically. If we are too attached to a meaningless life of materiality, Ketu can hurt us deeply. His dasa follows Mercury who is a very worldly planet and a builder, so often times the worldly gains of Mercury are parsed by the South node and his need for a Spartan existence. Ketu is a malefic planet and a cruel one so his energy will feel harsh, even when he is giving good things.
Medical indications: Ketu can give Mars type of accidents and diseases as well as mysterious illnesses, muscular or nervous system disorders. Psychologically he gives self-doubt as well as a hyper criticism of all he is associating with.

Venus - 20 years. Venus is a time when we will mainly seek worldly happiness and a loving partnership. Coming after Ketu dasa, Marriage is often a theme in Venus dasas or a marriage that has more loving qualities of Venus. Wealth is also an important theme as are Women, children and other people in general. Venus as a benefic will want to give things to us and we must be careful not to fall into the worldly quality of her charms and sensual pleasures. Although Venus is Mother Lakshmi, the Goddess of beauty and wealth, Venus is also the great caretaker and her dasa will make us take better care of people or ourselves or make us aware that we are not doing a good job in that area of life or that we are not being treated with the courtesy and respect that we deserve. She is a Brahmin, a teacher, and she would like to teach us in a gentle way, but unfortunately, we do not learn

life's deep lessons when we are happy in the world, as Venus would like us to be. We generally only learn when we are suffering. In being a caretaker she would like us to be of service and that also means service to God, as Venus is also the main planet of devotion and a higher path of surrender. This great benefic would like to give us the kingdom of God an a silver platter (with a good meal!) Even when we suffer during her dasa there are lessons to learn and it is as gentle as possible.
Medical indications: As a kapha planet she can give illnesses related to internal organs, mainly of the reproductive system, STD's, as well as the kidneys, diabetes.

Sun - 6 years. The Sun dasa shows the time when the Souls energy burns deeply into the life. We would like to purify and hone our expression down to only that which serves to take us to the heights we have imagined. It is the time when we are finding our true selves. We may experience a crisis of confidence, which spurs the need to seek inner truth. Education, spirituality, politics, business, affecting the world in a big way, can also be themes of the Sun dasa. If the Sun in weak, we will feel hurt by the inability to project the confidence we need to blaze a path to truth and light that we have envisioned. The Sun is the planet of confidence and charisma, and also the planet with the most inherent strength as he lights up the entire chart. His strength and forbearance will likely have us sacrifice something, especially after the excess and hedonism of Venus dasa. The nature of the Sun as a cruel Graha is that he will separate us from those things extraneous and in the way. Power is the theme of the Sun dasa, the power to shine as truth and to express our unique Soul nature. But we may also suffer, as the Sun will burn the impurities we have gathered

along the way and separate us from those who do not support or comprehend our new and unique path.
Medical Indications: The Sun rules the basic vitality and energy in the body, so if he is weak in the chart his dasa period may show an overall decline in vitality. Also he rules the heart and can give heart attacks in his dasa period.

Moon - 10 years. The Moon dasa is a time when we seek connection. Marriage, family and Motherhood (especially for women) will be themes. But also activities involving us with the public and other people will be themes. Starting a business, buying a home, staking a claim in the tangible world will be important. A strong or well-supported Moon can make it s dasa the best time of our lives. A weak Moon can make us feel that everyone else has that "normal life that we don’t. If the connections to family and children and home are absent, there could be much suffering in Moon dasa. It is also a time when memories of our own childhood can become major themes as the Moon rules our memories. We will likely revisit our own childhood through the evolution of our growing family or lack of. How were nurtured and how we nurture others will be played out and this possible loss experienced. If indicated we may experience some deep mental crises at this time as the Moon is the main planet of mental illness and insanity. The Moon is a gentle Graha, so even if we are suffering there is no cruelty to her energy. Yet she is fickle and lovesick, needy and totally impressionable. Just as the Moon itself is the most sensitive part of who we are, so too the Moon dasa can be the most vulnerable part of our life.
Medical Indications: The Moon shows the overall constitution and water in the body, the water that maintains our tissues. If the Moon is weak

we will have excess vata, which makes for nervousness and anxiety in her dasa period. The Moon also rules the breasts and can show breast cancer or tumors when harmed.

Mars - 7 years The Mars dasa is another hot and fast dasa. It is a time when we will be involved in pursuing our goals with energy and passion. There will likely be a sense of excitement and energy during this time as well as a daring course through the 7 years of Mars dasa. Sports, competition and other interests will be important at this time. Mars is the planet that makes us want to improve our life through disciplined action. His dasa will either bring us closer to that improvement, or when Mars is compromised, we will suffer, noticing our lack of strength, courage and inability improve. This will either bring complacency, or bring us into conflict with others through arguments, fighting and power struggles. It is the nature of Mars to fight for what is right, but we will be overtaken by our enemies, suffering due to our perceived powerlessness if he is weak. Associates, allies and those that we do battle with will also be themes in Mars dasa, as well as siblings and business relationships and entanglements of all sorts with them. Mars also rules landed property so buying a home may be important. Mars is a malefic planet so even when he gives things, there is a harsh quality to it.
Medical Indications: He brings stress, hypertension and overexertion, so health problems like heart attacks and other stress related ailments might appear during his dasa. Also problems with the blood, like leukemia are possible as Mars rules the marrow.

Rahu - 18 years. Rahu dasa is a time when our material life can spin out of control. Rahu is the planet of our material attachment. Rahu is

associated by sign, house and planetary conjunction and aspect with the qualities we are most in need of developing in this lifetime. As his energy eclipses our mind on a subconscious level, his dasa period can feel like things we do not understand are compelling us. Mysterious scenarios will unfold and put us in places we would have never imagined. Then unexpectedly, everything changes and we are doing something totally different. His energy is similar to Ketu, (the other half of the Node) but with Rahu it is our subconscious obsessions that are controlling us, compelling us to develop those parts of ourselves that are in need of developing. Yet Rahu can bring enormous success during his dasa period as he will be focused and determined to explode the worldly quality of whatever he is associating with. There is also psychic events and kundalini experiences possible with Rahu. But in general, during his dasa periods we are likely to feel out of control as we accumulate or experience without wisdom or maturity.
Medical Indications: Rahu creates mysterious illnesses, often time of the nervous system like weird allergies, toxic poisonings and environmental diseases. Physical ailments that occur during Rahu periods are especially hard to cure because of the obscuring nature of this node. Many times a person will not become cured until Jupiter dasa, when suddenly something changes and they are better.

Jupiter - 16 years. After 18 years of Rahu we get the dasa of the great benefic Jupiter. As guru, Jupiter will always teach us something and give us something. His dasa periods bring children, marriage, wealth as well as titles and honors. Jupiter is the planet of hope, faith and optimism that allows us to keep going because we believe our best days are yet to come. He can make us religious, put us in touch with our Guru, and give the right moral conduct and the awareness to do

the good rather than the bad. When Jupiter is weak his dasa may make us unrealistic, overly optimistic or have a sense of self-entitlement or a haughty view. He may bring bad teachers or problems with them. Also when weak, Jupiter will deprive health, wealth, children and many other things, forcing the native to find a deeper fulfillment without them. However, Jupiter is a gentle Graha and though we may suffer, he will give usually give knowledge and right understanding of the problem. He has a way of putting us into situations that increase our understanding of life and our problems. Suddenly we will meet a person who introduces us to our Guru, or some random event will change our lives for the better. Jupiter is God's grace, that ineffable force, that good karma that is always leading us higher.
Medical indications: As a planet of expansion and a kapha planet, Jupiter can create obesity. Also he has to do with allergies and excess phlegm. As ruling tissue he can be the excess mass that is shown by the body producing cancer cells. Psychologically, Jupiter brings optimism and

Saturn - 19 years. The expansive nature of Jupiter gives way to the practical persevering quality of Saturn dasa. Saturn dasa is a time when we will face our limitations. The inescapable truth is that our limited body and mind will perish one day. Saturn makes us aware of this through the aches and pains in our body; the death of our loved ones, chronic illness and the resulting fear of these things getting worse. The more attached we are to worldly gain and pleasures; the more Saturn dasa may hurt us. However great success is also possible, as Saturn is a planet of practical efforts and perseverance leading us toward our goals. He gives a very responsible nature and high levels of

ambition. However, much of this external focus is an avoidance of the inner work that must be done in order for the mind and heart to settle. In such cases, Saturn may bury us beneath a mountain of responsibility until we relent or break down physically and emotionally. His dasa can place us in hospitals; make us deal with old people, death, legacies and inheritance. Insurance, wills, banks, things attached to legacies and family history are relevant. Saturn is the planet of pressure, internal and external. He is the great karmic taskmaster who rules with an iron grip, bringing suffering commensurate to our avoidance of truth. As such, a Saturn dasa is also a time when enormous spiritual growth and progress is possible through perseverance and facing the truth alone, which is the only possibility. He teaches us to thrive in isolation rather than crave worldly distractions. He teaches us to get by with less and simplify our lives. And, he teaches us humility and sensitivity to others. Because when we suffer we develop compassion for others who suffer.

Medical: Saturn is the indicator of chronic illness. He is a vata planet that brings pain to the joints and drying to the body. Arthritis, paralysis, constipation, cancer as well as problems with the knees, teeth and bones are possible in Saturn dasa. Psychologically, he brings depression, anxiety, fear, cynicism, bitterness and depression.

Mercury - 17 years. The limitations and restrictions that define Saturn dasa give way to the playful and curious energy of Mercury dasa. Mercury dasa is a time of learning, experimentation, curiosity, mental stimulation and pursuing our interests. But he can also be a time of excessive stimulation and unfocused action. The neutral quality of Mercury is always a potential problem. He does not judge he builds. It is his job to find the right details necessary to succeed and build our

life. Saying the right things, making the right decisions, talking to the right people, are what allow us to succeed, or not succeed as well as show how we will go about it. Whatever is influencing Mercury will show how we go about things and how they will manifest in the world. Thus Mercury dasa is a time when our career and worldly life could skyrocket or plummet. We can either ascend to the heights by devising an effective plan or become overwhelmed by the many tasks and details of life, which can spiral into mental escapism, lethargy and fantasy. He is the lightning fast quality of the mind. That speed is necessary for the equanimity that he brings. The capacity to see all possibilities at once and prioritize and assess them accurately is what makes Mercury the God of discrimination. More than any other planet, Mercury gives us detachment from our emotions, which is truly discrimination in action

Medical: Lungs, allergies, skin problems, Speech defects, Mercury is a planet of the mind, like the Moon, serious afflictions to him can manifest as mental illness.

Lesson 1:
Predictive Astrology -
Understanding Karma, Fate, and Free Will

By Vaughn Paul Manley, M.A.

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Anyone interested in seriously learning astrology must someday grapple with the age old philosophical questions regarding fate and

free will. Is our fate linked inexorably to our moment of birth or is there some wiggle room for free will? If so, how much? Obviously, astrologers can predict events, which proves there is some element of fate at work. But at other times predictions fail. This may either be a reflection on the astrologer's skill level, the accuracy of the predictive system itself or because there really is the elusive power of free will at play. This lesson is written to help clarify these questions.

Fate Versus Free Will - East and West

In the West, we feel very uncomfortable with the idea of fate or destiny and relish our free will. It's not uncommon to hear someone boldly defending the concept of "creating our own reality" and of being an unlimited co-creator with the divine. However, in India it's much different. In their culture, it's not uncommon to hear someone resign themselves to a situation by simply saying "this is just my fate."

While on the surface it may appear that our Western attitude is the wiser of the two, we may want to reconsider. After all, how "free" really is our free will when we're limited by our past conditioning? Usually, we're such creatures of habit that we can't even follow through with our new year's resolutions past February! Our habits are often so difficult to change that it can be like trying to hold down a log in water – no matter how long we hold it down it quickly rises back to the surface. On the other hand, the attitude of resigning ourselves to our fate could reflect a level of acceptance and trust that could be considered very wise.

Due to the differences of cultural conditioning, generally the astrologers of India tend towards a fate orientation, while the

astrologers in the West tends toward a free will orientation. And it's very easy to err on one side or the other. We may not even be aware that what we're saying to a client has a fatalistic tinge or an overly optimistic free will sugar coating.

As a general rule I believe it's better to err on the side of being free will oriented. I tend to believe in the power of suggestion and how negative thoughts, spoon fed to us by astrologers, can become self-fulfilling prophecies. But, whichever you prefer, it's our responsibility as astrologers to recognize the karmic implications of what we tell our clients.

The Predictive Systems in Vedic Astrology

People often get interested in learning Vedic astrology because they want to learn their famous predictive systems. It's true - Vedic astrology has evolved many fascinating systems of prediction, over its some 5,000 year old history, making it possible to forecast time periods for marriage, career changes, financial rises and falls etc. often with remarkable accuracy.

The singular, most popular predictive system is the vimshottari dasa system, which we will cover in depth in this tutorial course. In addition, there are well over 50 other predictive systems like ashtakavarga and chara dasa. In other words, there is no shortage of predictive systems.

The Value of Predictive Astrology

The ancient seers, like the sages Parashara and Jaimini, devised these systems in order to help people align with their "dharma" or life

purpose by giving them a bird's eye view of their life and suggesting what to do and when. "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven" Ecclesiastes 3:1. The value of predictive astrology is to help us come into harmony with the seasons of our lives. If we plant a seed out of season it has a more difficult time coming to fruition. Likewise, we can use predictive astrology to pin point favorable time periods for any activity in our life.

Predictive astrology is generally "event oriented" as opposed to "psychology oriented". However, since astrology encompasses our entire lives, both the internal and external, it's difficult to separate events from psychology. In other words, since events happen to people, with their unique psychological patterns, predictive astrology encompasses psychology. For instance, if a predictive astrologer foresees a difficult financial period, then the event discussed may be potential financial loss, but the psychological pattern discussed may be extravagant spending or excessive risk taking.

The astrology chart is a map of our life and the astrologer's job, then, is to empower people by helping them navigate the map and make discriminative choices along the way. Vedic astrology gives us additional navigation systems to help us avoid the foreseeable roadblocks, and to learn how to use time to our best advantage – both materially and spiritually.

Misuses of Predictive Systems

Generally, astrology clients don't consider positive predictions to be a problem. Bring them on! Marriage, money, travel, successful careers etc…We love having our ego's pampered and puffed up with the

possibilities of positive events in the future. It's often why we seek out astrologers in the first place.

However, the problem is that many astrologers misuse predictive systems by making negative predictions using fatalistic terms. For instance, you might hear an astrologer say something like "you're going to lose your job, get depressed and apathetic, and gain weight." You're left feeling discouraged because, according to your astrologer, your life (plus 20 more pounds!) is already predetermined and you're just "along for the ride". How useful is that? Astrology is not meant to paralyze our will – quite the opposite.

But it gets worse. I've heard repeated horror stories of clients seeking recovery after hearing negative predictions, like the onset of a terminal illness or a terrible car accident, from fatalistic astrologers. I fail to see any value in this.

However, there is one exception. In some cases, telling a client honestly that they're entering a difficult period could help them "surrender" and come to acceptance of their situation, which could be a positive relief if they've made continued effort to improve their situation to no avail.

Two Schools of Thought:
Taking Action vs. Surrendering

There are two valid ways to responding to negative situations in our lives – taking action and surrendering. We take action to minimize or avert a negative outcome, which implies that we have the power of free will to effect change. Surrendering to a situation means that we

give up our power to effect change and usually means we believe in the greater power of fate or destiny.

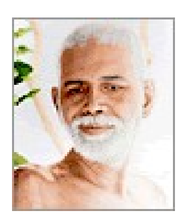
Both of these approaches, taking action and surrendering, represent one of two schools of thought in Vedic philosophy. The path of action, represents "Dvaita" or dualism and is generally a proponent of a free will orientation. The path of surrender or non-action, represents "Advaita" or non-dualism and is generally a proponent of fate orientation.

Here's a quote by Paramahansa Yogananda, a modern seer and proponent of Dvaita supporting free will:



"Occasionally I told astrologers to select my worse periods, according to planetary indications, and I would still accomplish whatever task I would set for myself. It is true that my success at such times has been preceded by extraordinary difficulties. But my conviction has always been justified: faith in divine protection, and right use of man's God-given will, are forces more formidable than are influences flowing from the heavens."

Here's a quote by Ramana Maharshi, another modern seer and proponent of Advaita supporting fate:



“The ordainer controls the fate of souls in accordance with their prarabdha karma. Whatever is destined not to happen will not happen, try as you may. Whatever is destined to happen will happen, do what you may to prevent it. This is certain. The best course, therefore, is to remain silent."

Both of these modern seers speak with conviction and command respect in their respective schools of thought. Therefore, in order to understand how both seemingly paradoxical view points could indeed be valid, we need to understand the law of karma.

The Law of Karma

Our astrology chart is a map of our “karma”. Karma basically means “action”. When we talk about “our karma” we’re talking about the actions we’ve “sown” or performed in the past (including our past lives) that are the cause of what we “reap” in our current life situation. This either becomes our karmic burden or our karmic blessing depending on whether we’ve performed positive or negative actions in the past. The Vedic scripture, the Mahabharata, says that just as a calf can always find its mother, even if its wandered into a large herd, so our past karma will always seek us out and find us. This is the law of karma.

However, our astrology chart is a relatively flexible map because our karma is relatively flexible – meaning that some karma in our lives is fixed or fated and some karma is flexible and can be changed by our free will. Our lives, then, are a dynamic interrelationship between both fate and free will.

The Four Kinds of Karma

Our karma makes up both our fate and our free will because there are four kinds of karma – two that represent our fate and two that represent our free will. The two kinds of karma that represent our fate are:

1. Sanchita Karma – Our entire accumulated karma that represents all the actions we've performed in all our past our lifetimes.
2. Prarabdha Karma – Our current life karma. Our prarabdha karma is that portion of our entire sanchita karma that is allotted to us to experience in our current lives.

The two kinds of karma that represent our free will are:

3. Kriyamana Karma – This is our free will to take current actions to change our current life situation.
4. Agama Karma – This is our free will to make a plan or set an intention to take an action in the future.

To use our free will effectively we have to "plan our work" and "work our plan". The former is our agama karma, while the latter is our kriyamana karma. Without kriyamana and agama karma our life would be entirely predestined at the moment of birth. We would, in effect, be automatons at the mercy of our past karma.

Let’s say we go on a bike ride and get into an accident. The accident would be considered our prarabdha karma – our allotted karma for this life out of entire sanchita karma. To bandage the wound in order to minimize our suffering would be our kriyamana karma. To set an intention to be more careful in the future would be our agama karma. To buy a bike light and reflectors in order to avoid future accidents would also be our kriyamana karma.

The Three Levels of Karmic Magnitude

In addition to the four kinds of karma, there are three levels of magnitude to any given karma. Karma can be fixed/strong or non-fixed/weak, or a combination of the two. If the karma is strong then the predetermined event will almost certainly happen. If the karma is weak then it may be relatively easy to avert it. The three levels of magnitude are:

1. Fixed karma (Dridha) – This is karma that cannot be changed by any effort on our part. Only the grace of
God can alter fixed karma (Dridha).

2. Mixed karma (Dridha/Adridha) – This is karma that can be changed but only with substantial effort.

3. Non-Fixed karma (Adridha) – This is karma that can be easily changed with some effort.

How Astrologers Can Determine Karmic Magnitude

Astrologers are like detectives. We’re looking for clues to reinforce a hypothesis. The more clues that we find to confirm our hypothesis, the

more certain we become. Likewise, when we're looking at a chart and trying to determine the level of magnitude of a particular karma we're literally counting the number of reinforcing indications. A small number of indications represent a non-fixed karma (adridha), or only a possibility of the event manifesting. A large number of indications represent a more fixed karma (dridha) or a relative probability of the event manifesting. The following graph gives an illustration:

POSSIBILITY - PROBABILITY

(uncertainty) - (certainty)

<--<--<--<--->-->-->-->

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

(# of indications)

Examples of Karmic Magnitudes for Physical Health

In the following three example charts we will be acting like detectives and looking for either positive or negative indications for physical health. To simplify our study we will only be looking at the planets Saturn and the Sun, (without any planetary degrees) located in different houses, with Leo ascendant. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list of indications and some combinations are not mentioned in order to keep it simple. This is meant to give an example of how astrology is used to determine karmic magnitudes.

In order to interpret the physical health of a chart we primarily look at the conditions of:

1. The ascendant
2. The ascendant lord
2. The Sun as the significator of the body

Leo ascendant becomes a convenient example chart for examining physical health because the Sun is both the ruler of the ascendant and the significator of the body.

In order to help us in our detective work we need to understand a few basic interpretation rules:

1. Planets become harmed when they are located in the 3rd, 6th, 8th or 12th houses.

2. Planets cause harm to other planets when they rule the 3rd, 6th, 8th or 12th houses.

3. The malefic planets, Saturn, Mars, Rahu, Ketu, generally cause harm to other planets.

4. Malefic planets become more benefic when they are located in the "upachaya" houses - 3rd, 6th, 10th, or 11th.

5. Planets become more benefic when they are located in their own house.

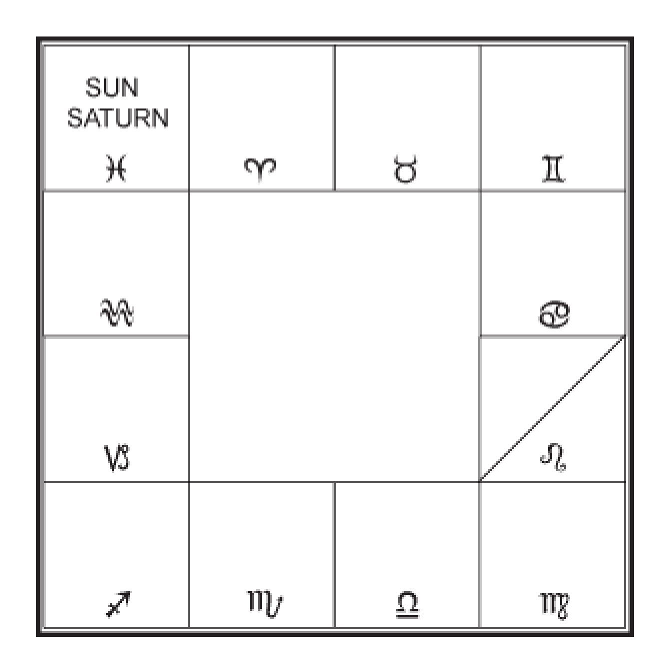
6. Planets aspect the 7th house from where they're located.

7. Planets aspecting their own house strengthen that house.

8. Planets gain strength when they are located in an angular house – 1st, 4th, 7th, or 10th.

9. There are two families of planetary friendships: Sun, Moon, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn, Mercury, Venus. Planets in their own families are generally friends, while planets of the other family generally are an enemy. Planets are harmed when aspected by an enemy.

Example 1 - Chart of a "Fixed" Karma
(Dridha) for Physical Health Problems



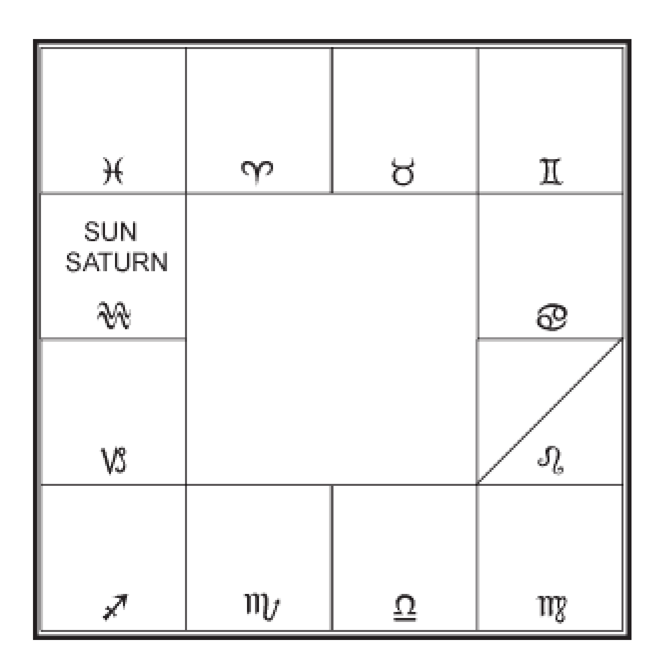
Indications for Physical Health:

1. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is in the 8th House – Negative.
2. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is with Saturn the 6th lord – Negative.
3. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is with Saturn a malefic – Negative.
4. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is with enemy Saturn – Negative.
5. Sun, significator of the body, is in the 8th House – Negative.
6. Sun, significator of the body, is with Saturn the 6th lord – Negative.
7. Sun, significator of the body, is with Saturn a malefic – Negative.
8. Sun, significator of the body, is with enemy Saturn – Negative.
9. Sun, ruler of the ascendant, is in a friends sign, Jupiter - Positive

10. Sun, significator of the body, is in a friends sign, Jupiter - Positiv

TOTALS – 8 Negative Indications, 2 Positive Indications

Example 2 - Chart of a "Mixed" Karma
(Dridha-Adridha) for Physical Health Problems



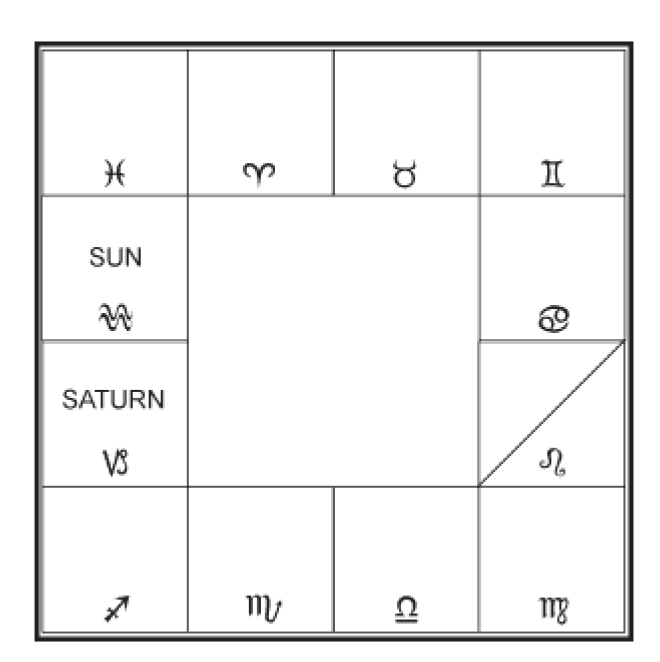
Indications for Physical Health:

1. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is with Saturn the 6th lord – Negative.
2. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is with Saturn a malefic – Negative.
3. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is with enemy Saturn – Negative.
4. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is in an enemies sign Saturn – Negative.
5. Sun, significator of the body, is with Saturn the 6th lord – Negative.
6. Sun, significator of the body, is with Saturn a malefic – Negative.

7. Sun, significator of the body, is with enemy Saturn – Negative.
8. Sun, significator of the body, is in enemies sign Saturn – Negative.
9. The Asc. is aspected by the 6th lord Saturn – Negative.
10. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is located in 7th on an angle – Positive.
11. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is w/planet in own sign Saturn – Positive.
12. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, aspects his own house – Positive.
13. Sun, significator of the body, is located in 7th on an angle – Positive.
14. Sun, significator of the body, is w/planet in own sign – Positive.
15. Sun, significator of the body, aspects his own house – Positive.

TOTALS – 9 Negative Indications, 6 Positive Indications

Example 3 - Chart of a "Non-Fixed" Karma
(Adridha) for Physical Health Problems



Indications for Physical Health:
1. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is in enemies sign Saturn - Negative
2. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is located in 7th on an angle – Positive.

3. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, aspects his own house – Positive.
4. Ruler of the Asc. Sun, is not aspected by malefic – Positive.
5. Sun, significator of the body, is in an enemies sign Saturn – Negative.
6. Sun, significator of the body, is located in 7th on an angle – Positive.
7. Sun, significator of the body, aspects his own house – Positive.
8. Sun, significator of the body, is not aspected by malefic – Positive.
9. Saturn, is located in upachaya 6th house - Positive

TOTALS – 7 Positive Indications, 2 Negative Indications

What To Do To Avert or Minimize Negative Karma

In the three example charts above the individuals would tend to have physical health problems to varying degrees. The individual in the first example, of a relatively fixed karma, would have to make considerably more focused and disciplined effort to gain good physical health then would the individual in the second example. By extension, the individual in the second example would have to make more effort then the individual in the third example.

The primary benefit of astrology is to learn how to navigate through the map of our karma and make wise, discriminative choices. There is no end to the kinds of positive actions that individuals can choose to take in order to avert or minimize negative karma. Vedic astrology is full of upayas or remedial measures – chanting mantras, practicing meditation, performing worship and fire ceremonies, giving donations to charities, wearing gems, reciting affirmations etc. There are specific remedies that can be prescribed for specific negative karma. Generally,

any effort that brings a positive harmonious vibration into our minds and hearts and spreads that into the world is beneficial and will help.

Communicating to Clients About Negative Karma

Even in India, where the astrologers tend toward a fate orientation, it's commonly believed that entirely fixed karma is rare. Almost all karma can be changed at least to some extent. Because of this, I think it's better to never mention the idea of fixed karma to clients. What's more, it places ourselves above God to assume that we know if a client's karma is entirely fixed or not.

For instance, I would never say to a client "________ will happen." The most extreme I would say is "it's like very, very likely that ________will happen." As one astrologer friend said once, "we have to give God his share." Even if we hold out that God's share to effect positive change is only 1%, I believe it's more helpful to clients if we do so. When we give a 100% negative prediction it usually creates fear, paralyzes the will or at best makes a person complacent. The only exception, as mentioned before, is if we communicate it in such a way that it helps our clients come to a positive place of surrender, trust and acceptance.

As a general rule, I believe it's more helpful to give "descriptions" rather than to give "predictions". When we describe the planetary influences for any given time and the possible outcomes that could manifest, then the client is left feeling empowered to take positive action to navigate their karma towards a positive outcome.

I usually find it more helpful to say something like "you'll need to make a focused effort here to change this situation. It's like when the current of the river is strong and you have to swim hard upstream. It's

difficult, but it is possible." This kind of a statement is neither too sugar coating, or too fatalistic. Then, the client has the ability to decide, in that moment, whether that level of commitment and effort is what they want to pursue. They may choose to move toward surrender and acceptance on their own.

Astrology As A Helping Profession

I think that it's underemphasized that astrology, like counseling, is a "helping profession." Because of this, it's important to ask ourselves, as a general rule, "is the information we're sharing and how we're sharing it helpful to our client?" When we're able to accomplish this, then predictive astrology becomes a means for people to align with a larger vision of their dharma or life purpose and navigate the map of the karma of their lives effectively.

The following quote, by Swami Sri Yukteswar, gives the best summary of the question of karma, fate and free will that I've seen:

"A child is born on that day and at that hour when the celestial rays are in mathematical harmony with one's individual karma. His horoscope is a challenging portrait, revealing his unalterable past and it's probable future results…The message boldly blazoned across the heavens at the moment of birth is not meant to emphasize fate – the result of past good and evil - but to arouse man's will to escape from his universal thralldom. What he has done he can undo. None other than himself was the instigator of the causes of whatever effects are now prevalent in his life. He can overcome any limitation, because he created it by his own actions in the first place and because he possesses spiritual resources that are not subject to planetary pressure."

– Swami Sri Yukteswar (guru of Paramahansa Yogananda, author of *Autobiography of a Yogi*)

Available Lessons